[23rd October 1956

Open-air cinema theatre on the Marina Beach, Madras

*291 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether foreshores of Marina Beach, Madras, would be flood-lit;

(b) if so, the amount to be spent;

(c) whether any open-air cinema theatre would be constructed on the Marina; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: (a) A portion of the foreshore opposite to the office of the Inspector-General of Police has already been flood-lit by the Corporation of Madras.

(b) Rs. 10,000.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: May I know whether the foreshore of other beaches such as San Thome Beach and Elliot Beach will also be flood-lit and if not why not?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: It is for the Corporation of Madras to consider that matter. If they approach the Government, the Government would consider the question of giving the necessary sanction. I believe there is some such proposal in this connection.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM: Sir, this kind of flood-lighting the foreshore of the Marina Beach has put an end to the burglars having their own way in that dark area and thus has done immense good to the public. Will the Government therefore come to the aid of the Corporation and see that the loan applied for by the Corporation for flood-lighting the other areas of the beach is sanctioned at an early date?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: That is what I have said. If they approach the Government the Government will consider the matter. Their application has not yet reached me. When it reaches me, I shall look into it and see what can be done in the matter.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: Sir, will the Government see that this flood-lighting does not affect the activities in the Lovers' Corner of the Marina Beach. (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: It is a special interest that the hon. Member evinces for which I cannot give any guarantee.